

CLAIMS

What is Claimed Is:

1. A knitted fabric suitable to provide thermal resistance, moisture transport and cut resistance having two opposite faces with:
 - 5 (a) a first face comprising (i) strands of a sheath/core construction with a sheath of cut-resistant fibers and a metal core and (ii) hydrophilic fibers and
 - (b) a second face comprising hydrophilic fibers with the proviso that the strands of the sheath/core construction are not
10 present on the second face and the further proviso that hydrophylic fibers extend from the second face to the first face.
- 15 2. The knitted fabric of claim 1 wherein the cut resistant fibers comprise aramid.
3. The knitted fabric of claim 1 wherein the cut resistance fibers comprise polyethylene.
- 20 4. The knitted fabric of claim 1 wherein the cut resistance fibers comprise staple fibers.
5. The knitted fabric of claim 1 wherein the metal core comprises a ductile metal.
25
6. The knitted fabric of claim 5 wherein the metal is stainless steel.
7. The knitted fabric of claim 1 wherein the hydrophilic fibers
30 comprise polyester.
8. The knitted fabric of claim 1 wherein the first face has a cut resistance of at least 4000 g measured in accordance with ASTM F1790-97.

9. The knitted fabric of claim 1 wherein the fabric has a thermal resistance of at least 0.50 clo.

10. The knitted fabric of claim 1 wherein the fabric has a permeability index of at least 0.50.

11. A knitted fabric suitable to provide thermal resistance, moisture transport and cut resistance having two opposite faces with:

- 10 (a) a first face comprising (i) strands of a sheath/core construction with a sheath of cut-resistant fibers and a metal core and (ii) hydrophilic fibers and
- 15 (b) a second face comprising hydrophilic fibers with the proviso that the strands of the sheath/core construction are not present on the second face and the further proviso that hydrophylic fibers extend from the second face to the first face,

wherein the fabric has a cut resistance on a first face of at least 4000 g measured in accordance with ASTM F1790-97, and a permeability index of at least 0.50.

20

12. The knitted fabric of claim 11 with a thermal resistance of at least 0.50.

13. The knitted fabric of claim 1 present as an article of clothing.

25

14. The knitted fabric of claim 13 present as a glove.

15. The knitted fabric of claim 11 present as an article of clothing.

30

16. The knitted fabric of claim 15 present as a glove.